

1898

White supremacy campaign grew using newspapers to print accusations of corruption and threats of black domination, traveling speakers in circuits designed to rouse crowds of voters to action, and White Government Union clubs and Red Shirt organizations to intimidate black voters and coerce white Republicans and Populists into voting the Democratic ticket

August 1898

News and Observer editor Josephus Daniels enlisted cartoonist Norman Jennett, a native of Sampson County, to launch a sensational cartoon campaign

Alex Manly, mulatto newspaper editor of Wilmington, published an article in response to a speech made by Mrs. Rebecca Felton of Georgia on need to protect poor white farm girls from black rapists in 1897 and reprinted by Democratic presses in 1898. Democrats used Manly's article as rallying point to unite white men in order to protect white women from further outrages against their purity.

Development of a racist labor movement seeking total employment of white labor force at the expense of blacks

26 September 1898

Postmaster James H. Chadburn, Jr. (Republican) as president of Chamber of Commerce, sent letter to Fusionist Senator Jeter C. Pritchard (Republican) contradicting Democrats' allegation of Negro domination; letter printed in newspapers; Chadburn forced to recant in 18 October *Messenger*

5 October 1898

Wilmington Chamber of Commerce declaration against "Negro Domination"

7 October 1898

Meeting in Merchants' Association in the Seaboard Air Line building adopted anti-black labor resolutions

20 October 1898

Large Democratic rally in Fayetteville featured a parade of Red Shirts, White Government Union members and military detachments. Parade ended with series of speeches given by Senator Ben Tillman from South Carolina, Alfred Moore Waddell from Wilmington and other state Democratic Party leaders.

21 October 1898

Confidential letter from Senator Jeter C. Pritchard to President McKinley described intense racial feelings, arming of whites and blacks, fear of trouble, and asked for deputy US Marshals to preserve peace; contents of the letter publicized by Daniels' *News & Observer*, raised Democratic fears of federal intervention

24 October 1898